

# ***NSF REGIONAL GRANTS CONFERENCE***

**Washington University, St. Louis, MO**

**October 4 - 5, 2004**

## **DRAFT CONFERENCE AGENDA**

**Monday, October 4, 2004**

### ***Introduction & NSF Overview***

This session will cover the National Science Foundation's purpose, mandate, enabling organic legislation, organizational structure, program and budget highlights (including current budget status), trends, and areas of special emphasis. NSF's Strategic Plan and other special initiatives will be discussed.

### ***Proposal Preparation***

NSF program officers will review how and when to prepare a proposal, including discussion of what constitutes a project and a proposal of high quality. Presenters will discuss do's and don'ts, recent procedural changes, as well as the various sources of NSF programmatic opportunities.

### ***Merit Review Process***

NSF program officers and administrators will discuss the philosophy of merit review and how it works, as well as ad hoc and multi-tiered reviews. Presenters will also cover the role of the program officer, timing of proposal submissions, reviewer selection, release of reviewer comments, and conflict-of-interest issues related to merit review.

### ***Concurrent Sessions***

Program Officers and administrative staff will discuss specific programs, initiatives and answer your pressing questions. Visit each directorate's website for a complete description of specific programs:

- [Education & Human Resources \(EHR\)](#)
- [Mathematical & Physical Sciences \(MPS\)](#)
- [Computer and Information Science & Engineering \(CISE\)](#)
- [Geosciences \(GEO\)](#)
- [Biological Sciences \(BIO\)](#)
- [Engineering \(ENG\)](#)
- [Social, Behavioral, & Economic Sciences \(SBE\)](#)
- [Integrative Activities \(OIA\)](#)
- [International Science & Engineering \(INT\)](#)

- **Grant Award & Administrative Issues**

Staff from NSF's [Division of Grants and Agreements \(DGA\)](#) will discuss current issues regarding award administration and stewardship, including evolving business models and NSF's Award Monitoring and Business Assistance Program.

### ***Award & Administrative Issues***

This session will address award requirements and conditions and will outline the responsibilities of those involved in the award process - principal investigators, grantee institutions, program officers, research administrators, and agency grants officials. It will also cover technical and financial reporting requirements and will include a discussion of the NSF audit and audit resolution process.

**Tuesday, October 5, 2004**

### ***Challenges, Opportunities & New Directions***

This session will cover NSF relations with Congress as well as future directions, strategies, and plans, including performance measures, Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and other NSF initiatives.

### ***Concurrent Sessions***

NSF Program Officers will reprise presentations of their program areas and answer your specific questions.

*Note that the Grant Award & Administrative Issues in this session will differ from day one. This session will cover grant award and administration as it relates to compliance and accountability.*

- **Education & Human Resources (EHR)**
- **Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS)**
- **Computer and Information Science & Engineering (CISE)**
- **Geosciences (GEO)**
- **Biological Sciences (BIO)**
- **Engineering (ENG)**
- **Social, Behavioral, & Economic Sciences (SBE)**
- **Integrative Activities (OIA)**
- **International Science & Engineering (INT)**
- **Grant Award & Administrative Issues: Compliance & Accountability**  
Staff from NSF's [Cost Analysis & Audit Resolution \(CAAR\)](#) branch will discuss budget reviews, indirect cost rates, and system reviews.

### ***Cross-Disciplinary and Special Interest Programs***

This session will emphasize programs of interest to faculty and researchers from all disciplines, such as CAREER, GOALI, REU, and RUI to name a few. New NSF program initiatives will also be discussed. Visit the NSF website for a list of all [Crosscutting/Interdisciplinary](#) programs.